



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 19, 2020

Mr. Barry Fuss
Chief, Bridge Design
Montgomery County Government
Department of Transportation
Transportation and Engineering Division
100 Edison Park, 4th Floor
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Dear Mr. Fuss:

AAC Recommendation for replacement of the
Schaeffer Road Bridge

On behalf of the Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee-AAC, please accept this letter as our position regarding the replacement of the Schaeffer Road Bridge.

The AAC thanks the Department of Transportation for this opportunity to provide our recommendations on improvements to the County's rural roads that our farmers rely upon each day. The County still has many older bridges in the rural and agricultural areas that were built in the 1920's when most of the roads were much smaller. When these older bridges need to be replaced, the County should take the opportunity to design them with improved structural and safety measures.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the fiscal crisis it has created for FY20 and beyond, the County must leverage County funds with our State and Federal partners. Moving forward, Montgomery County Government must prioritize ways to provide programs and services to residents in a very cost-effective manner. The Agricultural Advisory Committee strongly recommends the Schaeffer Road Bridge should be replaced with two lanes.

The AAC thanks you for this opportunity to express our views regarding replacement of the Schaeffer Road bridge. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Doug Lechliden, Chairman

Cc: Marc Elrich, County Executive

